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Agenda item 3

Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council on 22 March 2018

37/15. High-level intersessional discussion celebrating the centenary of Nelson Mandela

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and recognizing that 2018 marks their seventieth and twenty-fifth anniversaries respectively,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 64/13 of 10 November 2009, in which the Assembly decided to designate 18 July as Nelson Mandela International Day,

Taking note of the Declaration on the Centenary of Nelson Mandela, made by the Assembly of the African Union at its thirtieth ordinary session, and the decision of the Assembly at its twenty-second ordinary session to declare 2014–2024 the Madiba Nelson Mandela Decade of Reconciliation in Africa,

Recalling Nelson Mandela's lifelong struggle for freedom, human rights and human dignity, equality and justice, as well as his conviction and incarceration in 1963,

Recalling also that, upon his release in 1990, after serving 27 years in prison, Nelson Mandela contributed to the transition of South Africa to democracy, and that he gave selfless service as an international statesman to the cause of human rights,

Recognizing Nelson Mandela as the embodiment of human rights and a champion of the global poor and their dignity, as recognized by the General Assembly and the Assembly of the African Union,

1. *Decides* to convene a high-level intersessional discussion celebrating the centenary of Nelson Mandela, on his life and legacy, in the context of promoting and protecting human rights through social justice, reconciliation and democratic ideals, on 27 April 2018, the day that, in 1994, Mandela and millions of South Africans cast their votes for the first time in a fully representative democratic election;

2. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to invite to that discussion, for their participation, eminent persons who worked with Nelson

Mandela and other persons who embody his virtues on various global platforms for the advancement of human rights;

3. *Also requests* the High Commissioner to provide all the resources necessary for the effective realization of the discussion;

4. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a summary report on the discussion and to submit it to the Council at its thirty-ninth session.

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22 March 2018

[Adopted without a vote.]

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37/16. Right to work

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and recalling all international human rights instruments relevant to the right to work, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming also previous Human Rights Council resolutions on the right to work, the most recent being resolution 34/14 of 24 March 2017,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 63/199 of 19 December 2008, entitled "International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization", and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2007/2 of 17 July 2007, on the role of the United Nations system in providing full and productive employment and decent work for all, and 2008/18 of 24 July 2008, on promoting full employment and decent work for all,

Recalling also the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the follow-up thereto, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its eighty-sixth session, on 18 June 1998, the Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, adopted by the Conference at its ninety-seventh session, on 10 June 2008, and the Global Jobs Pact, adopted by the Conference at its ninety-eighth session, on 19 June 2009,

Recognizing the primary role, mandate, expertise and specialization of the International Labour Organization within the United Nations system in relation to the promotion of decent work and full and productive employment for all, and recalling its initiatives and activities in that regard, including the Decent Work Agenda, and the centenary initiatives of the Organization,

Acknowledging the work of the treaty bodies, in particular the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in relation to the right to work,

Acknowledging also the work of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in particular the International Labour Organization, in supporting the efforts of States to promote inclusive, sustained economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all and the full realization of the right to work, and recognizing the important

contributions made by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in relation to the realization of the right to work for women,

Reaffirming that all human rights, civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development, are universal, indivisible, interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Emphasizing that States should undertake to guarantee that the right to work is to be exercised without discrimination of any kind as to race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status,

Emphasizing also that the right to work is not only essential for realizing other human rights but also an inseparable and inherent part of human dignity, and is important in ensuring the satisfaction of human needs and values that are central to a dignified life,

Recognizing that full and productive employment and decent work for all are key elements of poverty-reduction strategies that facilitate the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and that they require a multidimensional focus that incorporates Governments, representatives of employers and workers, the private sector, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and international organizations, in particular the agencies of the United Nations system and international financial institutions,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the relationship between the realization of the right to work and the implementation of relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goals;[1]

2. *Reaffirms*, as enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the right to work, which includes the right of everyone to the opportunity to gain his or her living by work that he or she freely chooses or accepts, and that States should take appropriate steps to progressively achieve the full realization of that right, including technical and vocational guidance and training programmes, policies and techniques, to achieve steady economic, social and cultural development and full and productive employment under conditions safeguarding the fundamental political and economic freedoms of the individual;

3. *Also reaffirms*, as enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the right of everyone to the enjoyment of just and favourable conditions of work that ensure, in particular, remuneration that provides all workers, as a minimum, with fair wages and equal remuneration for work of equal value without distinction of any kind, in particular women being guaranteed conditions of work not inferior to those enjoyed by men, with equal pay for equal work; a decent living for themselves and their families; safe and healthy working conditions; equal opportunity for everyone to be promoted in his or her employment to an appropriate higher level, subject to no considerations other than those of seniority and competence; and rest, leisure and reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay, and remuneration for public holidays;

4. *Further reaffirms* that States have the primary responsibility to ensure the full realization of all human rights and to endeavour to take steps, individually and through international assistance and cooperation, especially economic and technical, to the maximum of their available resources, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to work by all appropriate means, including in particular the adoption of legislative measures;

5. *Recognizes* that ensuring equality and non-discrimination in access to work is crucial in addressing the social prejudices and disadvantages that might exist in the labour market;

6. *Stresses* that the freedom to work, which is included in the right to work, entails the right to pursue professional options under equal conditions, especially for those

[1] A/HRC/37/32.

whose freedom is frequently compromised by discriminatory legal provisions or forced labour, in particular women and persons with disabilities;

7. *Also stresses* that States, as provided for by the relevant international legal instruments, should prohibit forced and compulsory labour and punish perpetrators for its use in all its forms;

8. *Emphasizes* that the right to work entails, inter alia, the right not to be deprived of work arbitrarily and unfairly, and that States, in accordance with the relevant obligations in relation to the right to work, are required to put in place appropriate measures ensuring the protection of workers against unlawful dismissal;

9. *Underscores* the equal right of men and women to the enjoyment of all human rights, including the right to work, and that equal access to work is pivotal to the full enjoyment of all human rights by women, while recognizing that women are on many occasions subject to discrimination in the context of realizing their rights in that regard on an equal basis with men and are disproportionately exposed to the most precarious working conditions, including work in the informal economy, limited or no legal protection, lower levels of representation in leadership and decision-making positions, lower levels of remuneration and involuntary temporary and part-time employment, and are disproportionately burdened with unpaid care and domestic work within the household and the family, which may constitute on many occasions a barrier to women's greater involvement in the labour market;

10. *Recognizes* that progress has been made, yet is deeply concerned that many persons with disabilities continue to face multiple and intersecting forms of inequality and discrimination, including the lack of reasonable accommodation, which represent significant obstacles in exercising their right to work on an equal basis with others, and that they are frequently subject to less favourable conditions of pay, precarious, often informal working conditions and poor career prospects in a context of environmental, social and economic barriers in their access to work and within work, and in education and training, which results on many occasions in neglect of their potential and restrictions on opportunities to earn a living through their capabilities;

11. *Underscores* the responsibility of the State to protect children from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with their education or to be harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, and to take additional measures to prevent the engagement of children in the worst form of child labour;

12. *Expresses concern* that, according to the report of the International Labour Organization *World Employment Social Outlook: Trends 2018*, many countries continue to report high rates of labour underutilization, with large shares of discouraged workers and growing incidence of involuntary part-time employment, affecting in large part young people;

13. *Notes with concern* that, according to the report of the International Labour Organization *Global Employment Trends for Youth 2017*, although there has been a modest economic recovery, youth unemployment remains high and employment quality a concern, and young people are three times as likely as adults to be unemployed, which constitutes a serious global problem;

14. *Expresses deep concern* that inequalities are widening and there are not enough jobs, including quality jobs, and emphasizes that full and productive employment and decent work for young people play an important role in their empowerment and can contribute to, inter alia, the prevention of extremism, terrorism and social, economic and political instability, thus contributing to sustainable development and peace;

15. *Stresses* the fundamental importance of equal opportunities, education, technical and vocational training, and that lifelong learning opportunities and guidance for all, including for women, young people and persons with disabilities, are necessary for the realization of the right to work;

16. *Encourages* States to effectively implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including its Goal 8 on promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its targets;

17. *Underscores* that, in considering the relationship between the realization of the right to work and the implementation of the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and targets, it is important to recognize that the Goals and targets are universal and interlinked and that their achievement, in accordance with international human rights law and consistent with the commitment that no one is left behind, can therefore contribute to the realization of the right to work for all;

18. *Stresses* that all States committed, in the 2030 Agenda, to leaving no one behind and to reaching the furthest behind first, and, in order to promote the achievement of that principle, States are encouraged to create conditions for sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth and decent work for all and to promote the employment of young people and women's economic empowerment;

19. *Also stresses* that the Sustainable Development Goals and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development promote inclusive and sustained economic growth, higher levels of productivity and technological innovation, and encourage entrepreneurship and job creation, which can be effective measures to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, forced labour, contemporary forms of slavery and human trafficking, and that to ensure that no one is left behind, bearing these targets in mind, the goal is to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men by 2030;

20. *Recognizes* that employment should be a central objective of economic and social policies at the national, regional and international levels for the sustainable eradication of poverty and for providing an adequate standard of living, and emphasizes in that regard the importance of relevant and inclusive social protection measures, including social protection floors;

21. *Also recognizes* the fundamental importance of international cooperation, including through technical cooperation, capacity-building and the exchange of relevant lessons learned and good practices, in advancing efforts towards the full realization of the right to work through inclusive, sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;

22. *Calls upon* States to put in place cohesive and comprehensive policies and to take the legislative and administrative measures necessary for the full realization of the right to work for all, including women by, inter alia, considering to undertake policy commitments and measures to obtain full and productive employment and decent work for all, including through the establishment, where appropriate, of institutions for that purpose and by further strengthening tools, such as job services and social dialogue mechanisms, while paying continuous attention to professional and technical training and initiatives to foster small and medium-sized enterprises, cooperatives and start-ups, including those that are owned by women, and considering investing in infrastructure, services and social protection systems to allow for and to promote equitable sharing of care responsibilities between men and women;

23. *Highlights* the vital role of the private sector in generating new investments, job opportunities and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards the full realization of the right to work and the promotion of inclusive, sustained economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, noting the multi-year strategy of the United Nations Global Compact to drive business awareness and action in support of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Addis Ababa Action Agenda by 2030, and noting the need to promote the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the Women's Empowerment Principles established by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, as applicable;

24. *Recognizes* the important contribution of workers' and employers' organizations in the area of full and productive employment and decent work for all, and the importance of promoting equitable representation, participation and leadership in such organizations;

25. *Underscores* that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development, and that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the

creation of new job opportunities for women and men, and reaffirms that opportunities for all to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensure the eradication of hunger and poverty, the realization of equality between women and men, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and sustainable development;

26. *Calls upon* States to continue their efforts to prevent and combat all forms of discrimination and violence, including sexual harassment at the workplace, including by adopting and implementing laws and policies and through training, awareness-raising and support for women's access to justice with respect to violence and sexual harassment, bearing in mind that these continue to be among the factors that have an adverse impact on the realization of the right to work for women;

27. *Encourages* States to take all appropriate measures to prohibit discrimination in all matters concerning access to employment and job opportunities, including in relation to equal conditions of pay, hiring and career advancement, and to pay particular attention to women facing multiple intersecting forms of inequality and discrimination;

28. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare an analytical report, in consultation with States, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, particularly the International Labour Organization, and the treaty bodies, the special procedures, civil society, national human rights institutions and other stakeholders, on the relationship between the realization of the right to work and the enjoyment of all human rights by young people, with an emphasis on their empowerment, in accordance with States' respective obligations under international human rights law, to indicate the major challenges and best practices in that regard, and to submit the report to the Human Rights Council prior to its fortieth session;

29. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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37/17. Cultural rights and the protection of cultural heritage

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the Declaration on the Right to Development and all relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and reaffirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined therein,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, by which the Assembly established the Human Rights Council and in which it stated that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Recalling further Human Rights Council resolution 33/20 of 30 September 2016,

Convinced that damage to cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, of any people constitutes damage to the cultural heritage of humanity as a whole,

Recognizing that the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of cultural heritage belongs primarily to the State on whose territory it is situated,

Noting that the destruction of or damage to cultural heritage may have a detrimental and irreversible impact on the enjoyment of cultural rights, in particular the right of everyone to take part in cultural life, including the ability to access and enjoy cultural heritage,

Reaffirming that safeguarding the enjoyment of cultural rights may form a crucial part of the response to many current global challenges, including to the scourge of terrorism,

Reaffirming also that addressing the destruction of tangible and intangible cultural heritage needs to be holistic, encompassing all regions, contemplating both prevention and

accountability, focusing on acts by State and non-State actors in both conflict and non-conflict situations, and terrorist acts,

Recognizing that the violation or abuse of the right of everyone to take part in cultural life, including the ability to access and enjoy cultural heritage, may threaten stability, social cohesion and cultural identity, and constitutes an aggravating factor in conflict and a major obstacle to dialogue, peace and reconciliation,

Strongly condemning all acts of unlawful destruction of cultural heritage, which are often committed during or in the aftermath of armed conflicts around the world, or as a result of terrorist attacks,

Noting with deep concern the organized looting, smuggling and theft of and illicit trafficking in cultural property that could undermine the full enjoyment of cultural rights, and are contrary to international law and may, in some instances, generate funds for the financing of terrorism,

Acknowledging the importance of early restoration of the full enjoyment of cultural rights to individuals affected by conflict, and in particular to those who are displaced,

Emphasizing the important role that the Human Rights Council can play, in concert with all other relevant international actors, in global efforts to protect, restore and preserve cultural heritage, with a view to promoting universal respect for cultural rights by all,

Recognizing the important contribution that United Nations peacekeeping missions can make in the protection of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the enjoyment of cultural rights, both during and in the aftermath of armed conflicts,

Acknowledging the important role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Criminal Police Organization and the World Customs Organization in international efforts to combat and prevent damage or destruction, organized looting, smuggling and theft of and illicit trafficking in cultural property, and to restore damaged property,

Welcoming all initiatives, whether by States, institutions or private persons, for the voluntary return of cultural property, and in particular those concerning cultural property that has been illicitly appropriated,

Recognizing that technology, and in particular the Internet, may enhance cultural creation and dissemination by enabling new forms of curating and sharing, and engagement with, cultural heritage,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the intersessional seminar on cultural rights and the protection of cultural heritage,[1] and noting the areas identified therein as needing more attention, such as the protection of the cultural heritage of minority communities from intentional destruction aimed at erasing evidence of their presence and the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities in international debates on cultural heritage protection,

Reaffirming the importance of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its implementation, and in the context of its twentieth anniversary, highlighting in particular the important contribution made by cultural rights defenders involved in the protection of the cultural heritage of all humankind,

1. *Calls upon* all States to respect, promote and protect the right of everyone to take part in cultural life, including the ability to access and enjoy cultural heritage;

2. *Urges* all parties to armed conflicts to refrain from any unlawful military use or targeting of cultural property, in full conformity with their obligations under international humanitarian law;

[1] A/HRC/37/29.

3. *Encourages* States that have not yet become a party to all relevant treaties that provide for the protection of cultural property to consider doing so;

4. *Calls* for enhanced international cooperation in preventing and combating the organized looting, smuggling and theft of and illicit trafficking in cultural objects and in restoring stolen, looted or trafficked cultural property to its country of origin, and invites States to take measures in this regard at the national level to make effective use to this end of relevant tools and databases developed under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Criminal Police Organization and the World Customs Organization, within the scope of their respective mandates;

5. *Encourages* the strengthening of dialogue and cooperation between relevant international organizations and States affected by the organized looting, theft and smuggling of and illicit trafficking in cultural property, including through the provision of support and technical assistance aimed at enhancing their national capacities to restore, protect and preserve cultural heritage and property;

6. *Calls for* the development of partnerships between competent national authorities and civil society, in particular grass-roots institutions, with the aim of creating a safe and enabling environment to enhance the protection of cultural rights and to promote the right of everyone to take part in cultural life, including the ability to access and enjoy cultural heritage;

7. *Also calls for* the identification of innovative ways and best practices, at the national, regional and international levels, for the prevention of violations and abuses of cultural rights, and for participatory and inclusive approaches to the prevention and mitigation of damage caused to cultural heritage, whether tangible or intangible;

8. *Further calls for* the recognition of the protection of cultural heritage as an important component of humanitarian assistance, including in armed conflict and with regard also to displaced populations and for enhanced cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the mandate of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant agencies and stakeholders, with a view to mainstreaming the protection of cultural heritage into humanitarian actions, security strategies and peacebuilding processes, and in post-conflict reconciliation initiatives;

9. *Encourages* States to adopt a gender-sensitive and inclusive approach to the protection of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of cultural rights that is respectful of cultural diversity and includes consideration of human rights issues of minority communities and indigenous peoples;

10. *Calls for* the safety and security of cultural rights defenders involved in the protection of cultural heritage to be protected, including by investigating and, where appropriate, bringing to justice anyone alleged to have harmed them;

11. *Invites* States to adopt effective strategies to prevent the destruction of cultural heritage by, inter alia, ensuring accountability, documenting the cultural heritage within their jurisdiction, including through digital means, implementing educational programmes on the importance of cultural heritage and cultural rights and training military forces and humanitarian actors in all relevant rules concerning the protection of cultural heritage, both during and in the aftermath of armed conflict;

12. *Encourages* States to address limitations of cultural rights, to take the measures necessary to prevent the destruction of historic monuments, works of art or places of worship that constitute the cultural or spiritual heritage of peoples, both in conflict and non-conflict situations, and to promote respect for cultural diversity;

13. *Also encourages* States, the international community, the United Nations and civil society to consider implementing the relevant recommendations contained in the report of the High Commissioner on the intersessional seminar on cultural rights and the protection of cultural heritage,[1] as well as those made by the Special Rapporteur in the field

of cultural rights in her reports presented to the Human Rights Council[2] and to the General Assembly;[3]

14. *Requests* the High Commissioner:

(a) To convene, before the forty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council, and in collaboration with the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, relevant agencies and other stakeholders, a two-day workshop in Geneva with the participation of experts from all regions of the world to develop appropriate tools for the dissemination of an approach to the protection, restoration and preservation of cultural heritage that promotes universal respect for cultural rights by all;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Human Rights Council at its forty-sixth session;

15. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

53rd meeting
22 March 2018

[Adopted without a vote.]

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[2] A/HRC/31/59 and Corr.1.
[3] A/71/317.

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37/18. Promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal

The Human Rights Council,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and relevant international human rights instruments,

Recalling also the relevant provisions of the key international human rights treaties, in particular article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, articles 1 and 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and articles 10 (g) and 13 (c) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Recalling further the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on the issue of sport for development and peace and the Olympic Games, in particular its resolutions 67/17 of 28 November 2012, 68/9 of 6 November, 69/6 of 31 October 2014 and 70/4 of 26 October 2015, the latter on building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal, 71/160 of 16 December 2016, in which the Assembly supported the independence and autonomy of sport and recognized the unifying and c conciliatory nature of major international sport events, and 72/6 of 13 November 2017, in which the Assembly recalled its resolution 48/11 of 25 October 1993 that, inter alia, recognized the efforts of the International Olympic Committee to restore the ancient Greek tradition of *ekecheiria* ("Olympic Truce") calling for a truce during the Olympic Games in the interest of contributing to international understanding and peace,

Reaffirming previous Human Rights Council resolutions on the issue of sport and human rights, in particular resolutions 13/27 of 26 March 2010, 18/23 of 30 September 2011, 24/1 of 26 September 2013, 26/18 of 26 June 2014, 27/8 of 25 September 2014 and 31/23 of 24 March 2016,

Recalling that the General Assembly has supported the independence and autonomy of sport and the mission of the International Olympic Committee in leading the Olympic movement, and of the International Paralympic Committee in leading the Paralympic movement, and noting that they, as well as other relevant stakeholders, also have a role in protecting the interests and rights of athletes and the integrity of sport in accordance with the Olympic Charter, the International Paralympic Committee Code of Ethics and other relevant international standards and principles,

Acknowledging the fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, including principle 6, which states that the enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in the Charter shall be secured for all, without discrimination of any kind,

Recalling that the General Assembly has recognized the valuable contribution of sport to the promotion of education, sustainable development, peace, cooperation, solidarity, fairness, social inclusion and health at the local, regional and international levels, and noting that, as declared in the 2005 World Summit Outcome, sports can contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding among peoples and nations,

Acknowledging the revised International Charter for Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport, as proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-eighth session, in November 2015, and the Kazan Action Plan, adopted at the Sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, held in Kazan, Russian Federation, in July 2017,

Acknowledging also the major role of the United Nations system and its country programmes and the role of Member States in promoting human development through sport and physical education,[1]

Taking note with appreciation of the final report of the Advisory Committee on the possibilities of using sport and the Olympic ideal to promote human rights for all and to strengthen universal respect for them,[2] and its recommendations to States, national, regional and international sport organizations and other stakeholders,

Welcoming the significant impetus that the Olympic Games, the Paralympic Games and the Youth Olympic Games give to the volunteer movement around the world, acknowledging the contributions of volunteers to the success of the Games, and in this regard calling upon host countries to promote social inclusion without discrimination of any kind,

Noting that the Olympic Charter, among its fundamental principles of Olympism, stipulates that every individual must have the possibility of practising sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play,

Recognizing the potential of sport as a universal language that contributes to educating people on the values of respect, dignity, diversity, equality, tolerance and fairness as a means to combat all forms of discrimination and to promote social inclusion for all,

Recognizing also that sport and major sporting events can be used to promote awareness, understanding and the application of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recognizing further the imperative need to engage women and girls in the practice of sport and to enhance, to this end, their participation in sporting events at the national and international levels,

Welcoming the continued advancement of women in and through sports and sporting activities, in particular the support for their progressively greater participation in sport events, which provides opportunities for women's empowerment and the realization of gender equality,

Acknowledging the potential of sport and major sporting events to educate the youth of the world and to promote their inclusion through sport practiced without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires human understanding, tolerance, fair play and solidarity,

Acknowledging also the joint endeavours of the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee and the United Nations system in such fields as

[1] See General Assembly resolution 71/160.

[2] A/HRC/30/50.

human development, poverty alleviation, humanitarian assistance, health promotion, HIV and AIDS prevention, child and youth education, gender equality, peacebuilding and sustainable development,

Acknowledging further the importance of the Youth Olympic Games in inspiring youth, including university students, through integrated sports and cultural and educational experiences, and the potential for social inclusion, welcoming the hosting of the Youth Olympic Games by Buenos Aires in 2018 and Lausanne, Switzerland in 2020, and the hosting of the Universiade in 2019 by Krasnoyarsk, Russian Federation in March 2019 and in Naples, Italy in July 2019,

Reaffirming the need to combat discrimination and intolerance where they occur, within and outside the sporting context,

Recognizing that sport, the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and other international major sporting events, such as the International Federation of Association Football World Cup, can be used to promote human rights and to strengthen universal respect for them, thus contributing to their full realization,

Acknowledging the valuable contribution that the appeal by the International Olympic Committee for an Olympic Truce, also known as *ekecheiria*, could make towards advancing the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that recreational programmes, sport and games have helped to reduce tensions in some regions where there is armed conflict,

Noting also that sports could be a strong force for equality and diversity, and may play a role in the promotion of compassion, tolerance and acceptance for refugees and migrants,

Noting further that the participation of teams of refugees in the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2016, and in other games, such as the 2017 World Championship in Athletics in London, and the 2017 Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Ashgabat, might inspire a new understanding of the rights of millions of people caught up in crises around the world, and welcoming in this context the participation in mega-sporting events of teams of refugees selected under the responsibility of the International Olympic Committee, in close cooperation and consultation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, relevant international sports federations, national Olympic committees and the host country,

Acknowledging the very important role of the media in the promotion and popularization of sport and in raising public awareness of the merits of practicing as a key element of a healthy lifestyle, thus contributing to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health,

Acknowledging also that the media may play a positive role when reporting on how sport can translate into respect for human rights and promote social cohesion and acceptance of diversity and the values of sport, including integrity, teamwork, excellence, respect, tolerance, fair play and friendship,

Noting the successful conclusion of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in PyeongChang, Republic of Korea, welcoming the hosting of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in the cities of Tokyo, Beijing, Paris and Los Angeles, United States of America in 2020, 2022, 2024 and 2028 respectively, and stressing the opportunity to promote human rights, especially through sport and the Olympic ideal,

Recognizing the potential of sport and major sporting events in contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to fostering peace and sustainable development, and to the inclusion of persons with disabilities, and the promotion of non-discrimination, and taking into account the need to address and prevent improper practices of stakeholders engaged in the organization and preparation of sports events, which may lead to human rights violations and abuses and negatively affect the economic, social and environmental spheres,

Recalling the designation of 6 April as the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace, and encouraging the celebration of this day,

Being aware of the need to actively involve sport and the Olympic and Paralympic Games in achieving the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by persons with disabilities, and respect for their inherent dignity, recognizing efforts made by the hosting countries to create a barrier-free environment for persons with disabilities, and stressing the need to continue to build on efforts made most recently at the 2016 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, the 2018 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games in PyeongChang and the 2014 International Federation of Association Football World Cup in Brazil,

Acknowledging the role that the Paralympic movement plays in showcasing the achievements of athletes with disabilities to a global audience and in acting as a primary vehicle to promote positive perceptions and greater inclusion of persons with disabilities in sport and society,

Recognizing the need to reflect more thoroughly on the value of relevant principles enshrined in the Olympic Charter, the International Paralympic Committee Code of Ethics and good sporting example in achieving the universal respect for realization of all human rights,

Welcoming the panel discussion held at the thirty-second session of the Human Rights Council on the theme "The use of sport and the Olympic ideal to promote human rights for all",

Recognizing the need to support the independence and autonomy of sport and to preserve integrity in sports in all aspects, through good governance of sport executive bodies and the effective and impartial implementation of anti-corruption, anti-doping and other relevant regulations, without prejudice to the human rights of athletes,

1. *Encourages* States to promote sport as a means to combat all forms of discrimination;

2. *Calls upon* States to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee in their efforts to use sport as a tool to promote human rights, development, peace, dialogue and reconciliation during and beyond the period of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, in particular by observing the Olympic Truce;

3. *Encourages* States to adopt best practices and means to promote the practice of sport and physical activities by all members of society, and to cultivate a sports culture in society;

4. *Invites* States and national, regional and international sports organizations to, where appropriate, implement new or strengthen existing programmes that provide more opportunities and facilitate barrier-free access to sport for all, in particular for children and youth, persons with disabilities, and women and girls, and substantially increase opportunities for women's participation and leadership in all areas of sport, and in this regard encourages States to leverage sport and physical education policies and programmes to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

5. *Encourages* States and national, regional and international sports organizations to enhance human rights awareness and education, including the values of sport, of athletes, coaches and other sports officials;

6. *Calls upon* States to take effective measures to address vandalism and violence during and around sporting events, and to encourage national, regional and international sports organizations to contribute to that end;

7. *Welcomes* the cooperation among Member States, the United Nations and its specialized agencies, funds and programmes, the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee to maximize the potential of sport to make a meaningful and sustainable contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and encourages the

Olympic and Paralympic movements to work closely with national, regional and international sport organizations on the use of sport for this purpose;

8. *Decides* to incorporate into its programme of work a thematic panel discussion with regard to promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal, to be held once every four years at the session of the Human Rights Council preceding the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games, and also decides that the discussions will be fully accessible to persons with disabilities;

9. *Also decides* that the first such panel discussion will be organized at its forty-fourth session, ahead of the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo;

10. *Further decides* to remain seized of the matter.

54th meeting
23 March 2018

[Adopted without a vote.]